

Incl #3

Gazette Citizen

A WEEKLY FOR GOLETA,
MONTECITO AND SANTA BARBARA

THURSDAY, JAN. 5, 1967

10c A COPY

VOL. IX, NO. 18
20 PAGES

UPCOMING EVENTS TO BE LISTED IN CLASSIFIED SECTION

Starting with today's issue, the Gazette-Citizen will publish schedules of upcoming events of interest to boat owners, sports car buffs and trailer and camper enthusiasts.

The calendars will appear in the classified pages. Notices of boating activities, car rallies and trailer group meetings in the South Coast may be submitted for listing.

The case against civil defense: is it really prepared for anything?

by John Hurst
STAFF WRITER

ABOVE THE city and the sea in the idyllic surroundings of the Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions, Nobel Peace Prize winner Dr. Linus Pauling spoke quietly about a nuclear holocaust.

The United States and Russia, says Pauling, presently possess a potential for mutual destruction to a degree

EDITOR'S NOTE—This is the conclusion of a two-part special report on our civil defense program. Today: the voice of dissent.

that fallout shelters—even adequate shelters—would be obsolete before they were built.

Economics alone, he argues, make a fallout shelter program an exercise in futility. It is cheaper and easier to increase the destructive capabilities of offensive weapons, he says, than it is to create an adequate defense.

If the United States were able to institute a fallout shelter program capable of withstanding Russia's present offensive strength, Russia could and would simply quadruple its striking power to neutralize the shelters, says Pauling.

COL. FRANCIS Farley, assistant director of the Santa Barbara civil defense department, is presently working toward a local fallout shelter program.

The basements of such buildings as

FOR THE shelters to be even remotely practical, says Dr. Vernon Nash, oxygen and cooling systems would have to be installed.

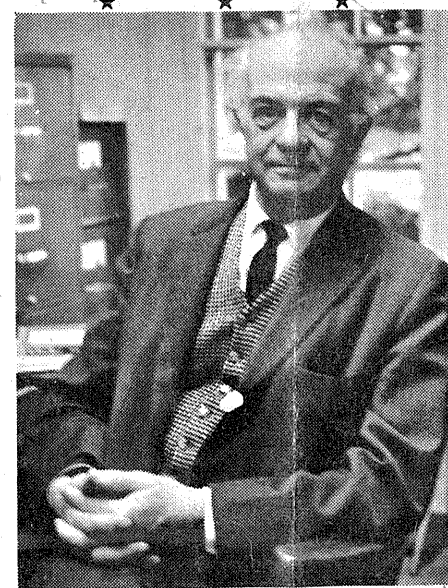
Nash is a Rhodes scholar who whimsically refers to himself as a semi-retired "pamphleteer." He has two degrees in journalism and a doctorate in education. He has been published widely on the concept of world government including a full-length book on the subject put out by Harpers.

His approach to shelters he terms "common sense" rather than technical.

Using rational deductions and voluminous reading, he finds fallout shelter programs "a dance macabre."

The required oxygen system for a shelter program makes the whole concept impractical, says Nash, because "the (oxygen) production of the United States for a solid year wouldn't be enough to supply the people of Santa Barbara for the time that would be needed."

He argues that studies made at the Oakridge, Tenn., atomic laboratory prove that natural body heat would cause a fatal temperature rise in sealed-off shelters unless a cooling system were installed.



—Gazette-Citizen photo
DR. LINUS PAULING
Destruction is easy

There is not enough coolant and oxygen in the country to do the job, he maintains, "and if you tried to produce them you'd need the entire output of the United States steel industry for tanks to put them in."

NASH TERMS Farley's fallout shelter program "a dreadfully cruel hoax."

Even if the existing "shelters" were adequate, he says, there aren't enough of them and it's impractical to provide enough for the entire population. "Shelters," says Nash, "will be the

And even if it were possible to build enough adequate shelters: "It doesn't do a bit of good to protect yourself from fallout if your food and water are touched by it."

What happens after the two weeks of provisions are used, he asks. And is two weeks a sufficient time to allow for the radioactive life of metallic objects rather than particles of earth and other non-metallic material?

"Pretty soon you're at the place where all the space available wouldn't be enough to hold supplies for a dozen people."

Nash points to previous civil defense plans that have been abandoned: evacuation routes, the now rusting markers which have become "objects of derision"; the backyard shelters—"They've given it up, certainly."

Building permit statistics from the city and county illustrate the demise of the backyard shelter. County records show six such permits issued in 1960, 65 during 1961 when the shelter furor reached its peak, one in 1962 and none since. The city estimates a mere half-dozen such permits have been issued in recent years.

And now the fallout shelters under places like the County Courthouse,

the museum of art and Security First: "If they were as wrong as they admitted they were by their behavior (by giving up previous plans) why are we under any obligation to take seriously what they're saying now?"

Says Nash: "Our one hope of escaping a nuclear war is recognition of both sides . . . that no matter what they do, there is no adequate defense."

"AS FAR AS I've been able to determine," says City Councilman Leonard Kopeikin, "this (shelter) program has no value as far as the public is concerned at this time."

Kopeikin is manager of Tempo's strategic systems analysis program. Part of his job is to determine the effects of nuclear blasts and fallout on shelters.

He is skeptical of fallout shelter programs per se: "It has been highly repudiated on a national level."

And of Farley's program: "Assuming that we were serious about a shelter program, and I don't think we should be, the program we do have is of no value."

The sanitation equipment provided in Santa Barbara's "stocked" shelters, Kopeikin finds ridiculous. Even if there were enough food, water and space available in the various shelters for several hundred people, he finds that the handful of "sanitation kits" available would be totally inadequate.

OF WHAT value, then, is civil defense to the City of Santa Barbara? It can provide a headquarters to



the Santa Barbara Museum of Art and the downtown branch of Security First National Bank have been declared fallout shelters and are supposedly stocked with supplies. (Neither the museum nor Security First were stocked with the required water supply, however.)

Farley states that an atomic bomb would have a total destruction effect within five miles of its impact. At 12 miles, he says, windows would be broken, but no burns would be caused.

But that would be true only of a small bomb. Vandenberg Air Force Base—a Strategic Air Command facility and missile center—is 50 miles to the north of Santa Barbara. Point Mugu—a naval base—is 38 miles to the south.

"A 20-megaton bomb," says Pauling, "is larger than the job would require, but it is the standard bomb that one talks about, usually."

A bomb that size, says Pauling, would flatten everything within a 10-mile radius. It would cause fires within a 40- to 50-mile radius. Fire storms would be created. Lethal fallout would occur within a 100-mile radius. The fallout pattern would be elliptical—maybe 50 by 200 miles depending upon the wind currents.

SO SANTA BARBARA is within easy fire and fallout range of a 20-megaton attack on either Vandenberg or Point Mugu and would be subjected to effects from either direction if they were both hit.

"The chances are pretty good," says Pauling, "that an attack on these two bases would wipe out Santa Barbara by radioactive fallout." Even a one-megaton bomb, he says, would spread lethal fallout within 50 miles of the target.

"Of course," he adds, "you can't be sure that bombs will hit their targets, anyway, if they're lobbed over by rockets."

He notes that several years ago it was calculated that half the bombs delivered by missiles would land within 100 miles of target. He estimates that advances in technology would now allow half of the bombs to fall within 10 miles of target — "the other half going further away from the targets."

If Vandenberg and Point Mugu were targets, says Pauling, there is a "reasonable chance that one of the bombs would hit Santa Barbara and wipe it out."

And even if Santa Barbara's basements were capable of protection against fallout, no one pretends they would withstand an atomic hit within the city.

To provide protection against fallout alone, says Pauling, an air filtration system is needed. Santa Barbara's fallout shelters have no such filter systems.



—Gazette-Citizen photo
DR. VERNON NASH
Shelters: A dance macabre

Thirty-two file for board seats

THIRTY-TWO persons are in the running for school board seats in the proposed Santa Barbara and Goleta Valley unified school districts.

A last-minute surge of filings as the deadline arrived Friday assured that there would be contests in all six trustee areas from which board members will be chosen.

The complete list of candidates, according to trustee areas, and their occupations where listed:

SANTA BARBARA UNIFIED **Area 1 (elect three)**

Jules Oakley, 120 Morada Lane, semi-retired.

David C. Keoppel, 134 Palisades Drive, businessman.

Mrs. Ann Gutshall, 524 San Roque Road.

Mrs. Sarah T. Roberts, 2915 Paseo Tranquillo, secretary.

Albert A. Melkonian, 726 Juanita Ave., technical editor.

Martin M. Rypins, 919 Veronica Springs Road, engineer.

V. Edward Drake, 1268 Bel Air Drive, lawyer-educator.

Kenneth R. Woodcox, 2329½ Castillo St., engineer.

Jerry Harwin, 302 Austin Road, businessman.

Area 2 (elect one)

Paul W. Wright, 792 Chelham Way, president of Cold Spring School District Board of Trustees.

Orley R. Herron, Jr., 688 Circle Drive, educator.

Carroll W. Dursell, Jr., 624 Chelham Way.

Area 3 (elect one)

Mrs. Edith E. Balch, 235 Hot Springs Road, member of Montecito Union School District Board of Trustees.

most dangerous place to be—unless there are enough for everybody . . . People will be crushed to death and, worse than that, smothered to death in the sheer jam that's sure to come."

About the civil defense plan to fill empty water containers during an alert, Nash comments:

"They're going to fill the tanks in the alert period? Why the streets will be so filled with people trying to get to where they're not, you couldn't move a baby carriage."

And the 100 select officials who are to run the headquarters beneath City Hall?

"How are they going to keep the others out?" asks Nash.



CITY COUNCILMAN KOPEIKIN
It's something of a fraud

Legal challenge of unification gets underway

A LEGAL test of the Feb. 14 school district unification election began Tuesday morning in Superior Court with County Superintendent of Schools Fred Greenough the first to testify.

Greenough was called to the stand by attorney John Sink, who is carrying the fight against the election on behalf of a citizens group headed by Mrs. Lyn McClurg.

Greenough, still on the stand when the court recessed for lunch, was questioned on such points as what form the ballot would take, and if the election could be held on another date.

There was no immediate indication of how long the trial will last, or when a decision can be expected.

* * *

BEFORE THE court test began this week, the County Committee on School District Organization had already served notice it would go ahead with the election even if only portions of the ballot measure survive the legal fight.

The committee, meeting last week, said in a formal resolution that in the event any portion of the election is declared unconstitutional or against state law, the remaining portions will still be put before the voters.

The committee also settled on the specific way an appraisal will be made to establish how the bonded indebtedness of the existing Santa Barbara High School District would be split between two new unified school districts. The appraisal will cover all high school district buildings and allow for depreciation both because of age and "functional obsolescence," and the impact of the Field Act governing structural safety in the event of earthquakes.

departments in disasters other than a nuclear attack.

But, says Kopeikin, "I don't see any reason why the civil defense activities can't be handled by the fire department . . . with the police department playing a major role."

But civil defense director Farley points out his department's access to government surplus property at savings to the city.

Kopeikin acknowledges this, but withholds blanket approval and then goes on to raise ethical questions regarding the surplus purchasing program:

"A great many of the equipment purchases have been very worthwhile," he says. Vehicles such as flat-bed trucks, he says, have been valuable assets to the city.

But, he argues, the money spent compared to the equipment gained is "not to tell the whole story."

While the amount of city equipment rose something like 30 per cent through surplus buying, service and repair bills were also rising and even more rapidly—about 40 per cent.

"The maintenance of these same vehicles has been a large factor in city expense," he says.

In fact, says Kopeikin, the need for repairs seems to be a built-in feature of most of the vehicles purchased through the surplus program:

"Most of them are in pretty poor shape when we get them and require a good deal of money to put them in good shape . . . Most of them are very old vehicles."

And many of the purchases are of questionable value, says Kopeikin. He doesn't understand, for example, why a duck (amphibious vehicle) is needed at Lake Cachuma and at the Santa Barbara Harbor. He points out that the harbor patrol owns a launch and the duck would seem to be unneeded.

What seems to be almost promiscuous buying has gained the city an overabundance of vehicles: "I think

(Continued on Page A-2)

brevities

JOHN WHITEMORE wants to know if Al Wilson is really the secret editor of the Gazette-Citizen.

* * *

IS IT TRUE that the Christmas tree in the Museum of Art was nearly banned as an illegal trip?

* * *

STOLEN FROM the Los Angeles Free Press pin display "Children Little Was Right."

DOWN WITH PRICES

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SINGLES

69^c

RECORDS



SOME
OLDIES
(SINGLES)
BUT GOODIES

3 FOR \$1⁰⁰

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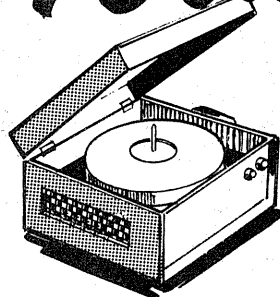
40%
OFF

LP's from 29^c

Record Racks 25%
OFF

CHILDREN'S

Portable



RECORD
PLAYERS

American
Made by
DECCA

Were 16.95

12⁹⁵

DPS 42

ANOTHER BIG BUY!

Model DPS 23

Was 19.95

NOW

16⁸⁸

UKULELES

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box. Were 5.95. Reinforced neck.

3⁹⁵

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Liquid filled ear cushions, sponge
padded adjustable headband...

#HA8A — FANTASTICALLY LOW AT ONLY

16⁹⁵



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American made! NOT a stripped down

MOTOROLA American made

PORTABLE RADIO

From page one . . .

The arguments against fallout shelters

(Continued from Page A-1)

the city is not a two-car family but a three-car family."

Kopeikin contends that out of the city's 660 employees, "not more than one out of three, if that many, . . . are required to leave their desks as a condition of employment." And yet, he says, the city owns some 400 licensed vehicles.

BUT EVEN if the purchases made by civil defense were of unquestionable value to the city, what are the ethics involved? Is civil defense mov-

ing though the grotesque motions of a shelter program merely to qualify the city for federal surplus purchases?

"The program is not at all what it is advertised to be," says Kopeikin.

About the surplus purchasing program: "I think it's something of a fraud."

He points out that Farley stood before the City Council to tell it that if his secretary were allowed to remain within the civil defense budget, half of her salary would be paid by the federal government and she

would still be free to work in other city departments.

By using such an "artifice" for a secretary's salary and to purchase equipment, Kopeikin finds the city "taking advantage of a loophole in the law."

It is, he says, a "legal artifice — we should examine our position very closely to see if we wish to take advantage of such an artifice."

It would, indeed, seem proper for a city that issues proclamations on moral rearmament to take such a close look at its own position.

State may join Turnpike Road controver

THE STATE Division of Highways may solve the problem—or forever complicate it—of finding the proper zoning for the controversial intersection in the Goleta Valley.

County supervisors were told this week that the division of highways has plans to encroach on some of the property, now owned by John R. Lucian, in the course of work at the intersection. County Road Commissioner

Leland Steward said the state's plans are novel but he expects that they will be clarified soon.

Appearing before the board, Lucian said there should be a study at the fate of his property which has been before supervisors and a commission for the past years on attempts to commercial zoning.

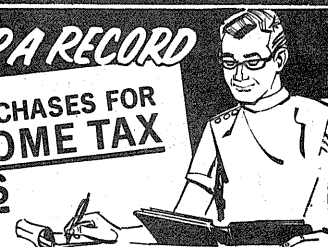
The most recent, would have allowed a Johnson restaurant and hotel, was turned down several appeals.

Daniel G. Grant, new man of the board, said property owners in the area should be included in discussions as to what might happen to the intersection. The board agreed to refer the matter to the planning road departments until further information is available from the state.

Lucian said that a rezoning request for his property opposite the Howard Johnson site will probably be drawn from the planning commission agenda next week, and left off until the situation is cleared up.

WE WILL KEEP A RECORD

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YOUR 1966 INCOME TAX
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BankAmericard

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FRI.

SAT. & SUN.

Golden Coast
DAIRY

INC.

★ BREAD-5⁰⁰ FOR \$1⁰⁰

★ FUDGESICKLES -- 59c doz.

★ FARM EGGS AA LARGE 55c doz.

★ Oscar Mayer BACON 79¢ lb

Oscar Mayer WEINERS 55¢ lb

--MILK-- PROCESSED AT THE
STORE LOCATION

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN
pursuant to the provisions of
the California Education Code
Section 3295 a public hearing
will be held in the area of
the proposed Valley School
District on Wednesday, Janu-
ary 1, 1967.

The meeting will be held at
Fairview School Auditorium,
North Fairview Avenue, Gol-
fonia. The meeting time will
be 7:00 P.M.
The purpose of the meet-

File #2

Our civil defense: what's it prepared for?

by John Hurst
STAFF WRITER

IN THE CATACOMBED basement of Santa Barbara City Hall is a retired Army officer and a telephone. The telephone is the local link in a national network of an "Early Warning" system in case of enemy attack. The officer is Col. Francis Farley, assistant director of civil defense.

Mayor Don MacGillivray is the director of civil defense. But it is a titular office. Farley runs the pro-

gram subject to the mayor's approval.

Farley took over the job in 1963 at what he says was the mayor's insistence. He started with an expense allotment of \$50 per month, of which the federal government paid half. He now makes \$660 per month—the city and federal government still splitting the bill.

DURING THAT time he boasts of supplying the backbone of the vehicle pool used by the various city

departments through the federal "surplus property" program.

"Taking away all the vehicles and equipment acquired through the sur-

EDITOR'S NOTE—This is the first article in a special Gazette-Citizen series on local civil defense operations. Today: what plans have been made, what agencies are at work.

plus program would leave a crippling hole in our everyday functions and disaster needs of various depart-

ments," he told the mayor and City Council in a memo at the beginning of 1966.

By using the surplus program open to civil defense, says Farley, he has purchased \$271,036 worth of equipment, at a cost to the city of \$10,945.

The equipment, which he says is in daily use by city departments, includes a 20-ton mobile crane, buses, trucks, jeeps and three ducks—amphibious vehicles used at the harbor, the airport and Lake Cachuma.

"Civil defense," wrote Farley in the

same memo, "makes it possible to have your cake and eat it too."

His office, he feels, has made it possible for the city to gain valuable equipment that can be used both for routine work and in case of disaster.

PREPARING for disaster—not purchasing city work equipment—is, of course, supposed to be the function of a civil defense office.

The disaster most frequently associated with civil defense is an atomic attack. And, indeed, the bulk of Farley's civil defense and disaster plan for Santa Barbara is concerned with such an attack. Earthquakes, floods, fires are mentioned, but atomic fallout is the focus.

Farley feels he's on the way toward readiness for such a disaster. In an Oct. 5 status of fallout shelter program report, Farley's former deputy director, Col. Joseph A. Baker, wrote:

"The search for new shelters is constantly being pursued, and it is the goal of the civil defense department to provide an estimated requirement of 89,000 spaces by the mid-1970s."

(The City Council has since cut Baker's position from the new budget.)

Farley presently feels responsible for the fallout protection of 89,000 people. He draws the lines somewhat to the east and west of Santa Barbara's city limits.

BUT THE CITY has no business taking responsibility for the county's population, says the county's civil defense director, Elvin Morgan.

"Mr. Farley better re-survey, maybe," he says, "I think he would like to have that much but . . . we can't release that responsibility unless it is by agreement."



CIVIL DEFENSE'S FARLEY
Biscuits for survival

and attempting to disturb the people," says Morgan.

And in the event of an attack: "The big function of civil defense after a nuclear attack would be cleaning up."

And what would Morgan do during an alert?

"The same thing everyone else would do—try to get to shelter."

AS OF LAST week, Farley said he and his early warning phone were ready to provide an alert and shelter for some 16,000 people.

Mayor Don MacGillivray recently

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* * *

BUT THE CITY has no business taking responsibility for the county's population, says the county's civil defense director, Elvin Morgan.

"Mr. Farley better re-survey, maybe," he says, "I think he would like to have that much but . . . we can't release that responsibility unless it is by agreement."

And since there has been no such agreement, Morgan says his office is responsible for the entire unincorporated area of the county.

There are no licensed or stocked shelters in the county area and Morgan is not planning for any. There are few if any buildings in unincorporated areas comparable to structures within the Santa Barbara city limits. And Morgan doesn't feel that the taxpayers are in a mood to support a shelter building program.

Meanwhile, monthly meetings are held with county department heads to coordinate planning in the event of natural disasters.

"We are not out tooting our horn

CIVIL DEFENSE'S FARLEY

Biscuits for survival

★ ★ ★

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* * *

AS OF LAST week, Farley said he and his early warning phone were ready to provide an alert and shelter for some 16,000 people.

Mayor Don MacGillivray recently presented certificates to local building owners and managers for their cooperation in the licensing and stocking of their basements as fallout shelters.

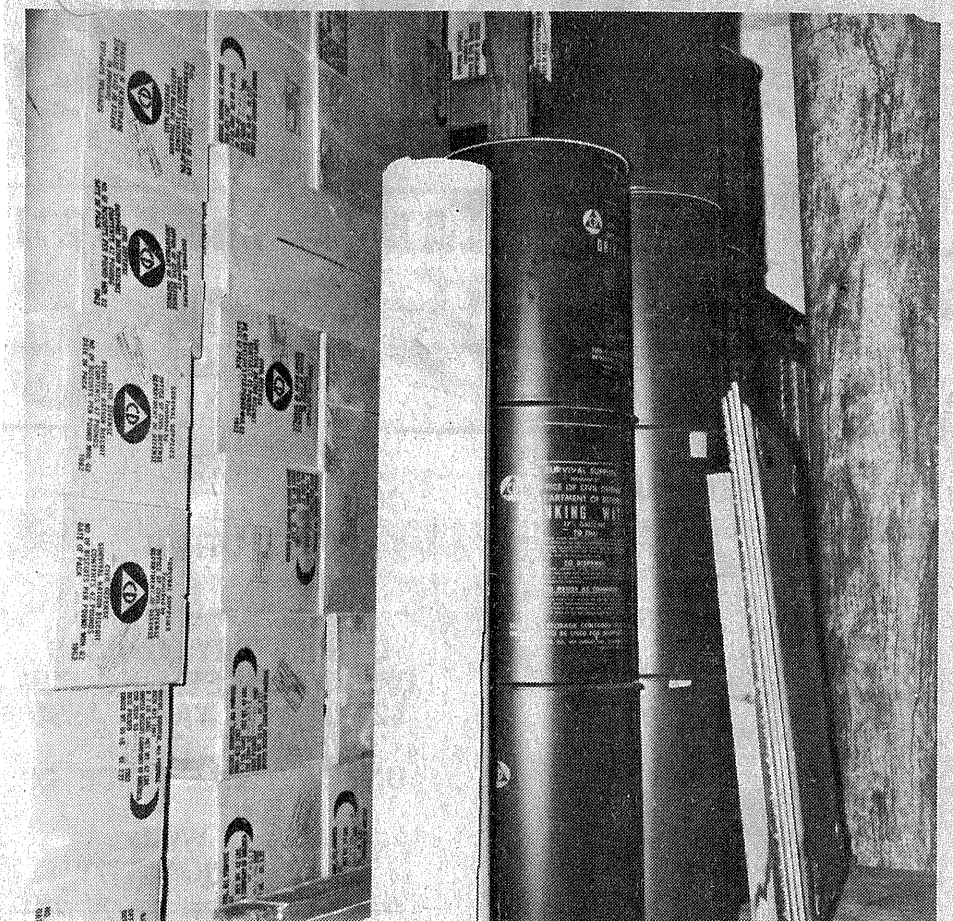
The cost of the fallout shelter program, says Farley, is borne entirely by the federal government.

Basements are inspected by Robert M. Manuel, civil defense project supervisor of the southwestern division. Manuel decides through complicated tests if a basement affords at least 40 times the protection a person would have standing in the open air.

If it affords such protection, the

(Continued on Page A-4)

★ ★ ★ ★ ★



—Gazette-Citizen photos

EMPTY WATER CONTAINERS IN MUSEUM OF ART
831 people for two weeks and nothing to drink

SOMETHING ELSE

How they are



JOHN HURST

IN ORDER TO start your year off right, I decided to pay you a visit," said Jimmy Chumash, last of the Chumash Indians.

"Last time you came," I protested, "you conned me into printing those offensive limericks."

"Those were Chumash haikus, O Tasteless One," he answered. "And this time I bring you an authentic Chumash Indian fable. It's one in a series of fables dealing with How Things Got to Be How They Are Rather Than How They Used to Be."

"What's this one called?" I asked warily.

"How the Ants Got to Be How They Are Rather Than How They Used to Be."

"Sounds dull," I said.

"And inoffensive," he added.

"Well," I admitted, "it does seem to meet the test. I'll take a chance."

The truth is, I couldn't think of anything to write about, anyway. So here is Jimmy's dull and inoffensive fable:

LONG AGO, before civilization as we know it, before the Beatles, before freak-outs, before the optional shift automobile, before Taco Bell, before TV dinners, before Bob Dylan and even before Dylan Thomas, the Ants walked upright on their hindmost legs.

They walked upright upon the surface of the earth and added there to the natural contours structures of their own. It is true that the Ants were somewhat less artistic than the Spiders, but they made up for it by their industriousness.

So industrious were the Ants that there came a time when vast areas of the earth were covered with their dwellings. And though their spires, towers and steeples never approached the ethereal quality of the arty Spiders' work, the very immensity and complexity of their efforts possessed a certain esthetic quality. Indeed, the work of an individual Ant was sometimes overwhelming in its beauty.

BUT, ALAS, what comes first, industriousness or avarice?

Sections of the earth were marked off as the exclusive territory of the Ants living there. Armies were formed to conquer the territory of other Ants and to protect the home ground from invasion.

There were many territories. And the Ants of the territories fought, made treaties and pacts, fought again, realigned themselves, fought again, made treaties and fought again. Many years and many wars passed until the surface of the earth was divided into two territories of Ants.

THROUGH the years of wars the profession of soldier emerged with respect and power. And with its own brilliant technology, produced works that some found to hold a strange and awesome beauty.

There came a time when the two territories, with troops of sleek and flying Ants, were capable of totally destroying one another.

An uneasy stalemate existed. Time passed with avariciousness held in check by fear.

Time passed and aging professional soldiers, whose lives had been war, retired to civilian Ant life. And as civilians they lacked the dignity and power afforded the professional soldier.

BUT THE civilians lived in fear and were ripe for leadership. The fear was tapped. The retired army Ants advised the civilians to protect themselves in case the enemy territory attacked.

"Our only protection is to abolish the troops of flying Ants," answered a few and isolated civilians. But they were shouted down, for the civilian army Ants were rising in power on the wings of fear.

On their advice, the civilians tunneled in the ground to hide from the flying troops. The Ants of the enemy territory did the same.

Endless catacombs were gnawed under the surface structures. The Ants of both territories raced to be prepared first. And then in mutual fear—afraid they were behind—the leader Ants of both territories panicked and launched the flying troops.

WHEN IT was over, little piles of sand were left where the immense and complex structures stood.

But the civilian army Ants were right. For underneath, in the catacombs, many Ants survived. Of course, they were somewhat transformed. They could no longer stand on their hindmost legs and they no longer desired to build on the surface of the earth.

From that time on, Ants emerge from their shelters only in desperate forages for uncontaminated food. And once securing it, they race in their frantic crawl back beneath the surface of the earth.

And that is How the Ants Got to Be How They Are Rather Than How They Used to Be.

5 Jan 67

12 January 1967

EDITORIALS

**Junk
it all**

THE SANTA Barbara City Council cut the civil defense budget in half this fiscal year and later reduced the staff. While it was at it, the council should have gone the rest of the way and done away with the office entirely.

Three basic functions are given as the civil defense department's reason for existence:

- Providing fallout shelters in case of an atomic attack.
- Coordinating the actions of local agencies when natural or manmade disasters strike, and providing care for the victims.
- Purchasing equipment for the city through a federal government surplus program.

But looking at these functions one by one shows the civil defense department to be superfluous at best and a grotesque hoax at worst.

THE LOCAL fallout shelter program is not absurd—it's ridiculous. It would be funny if the Bomb weren't so grim.

The spectacle of 831 people jamming into the Museum of Art basement amid stored paintings and empty water containers is an appropriate subject for a macabre Hieronymus Bosch canvas.

Civil defense director Col. Francis Farley excuses the program as better than nothing.

It is not. It is worse than nothing. Deluding the people into thinking they have a chance to survive an atomic holocaust makes nuclear war that much more likely. It makes the idea of atomic warfare acceptable.

We can only avoid a doomsday cloud by realizing that nuclear war is totally unacceptable, that there is no adequate defense, that there will be no survivors.

If is not a time to put wafers in basements and pretend we can escape the outside world. It is time to stand on the surface of the earth and demand that all the instruments of war be abolished. That is where our energy should be directed and that is how the federal funds for stocking shelters should be used.

THE CIVIL defense function of coordinating local agency efforts in times of natural or manmade disaster could and should be taken over by the fire and police departments as suggested by Councilman Leonard

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THE CIVIL defense function of coordinating local agency efforts in times of natural or manmade disaster could and should be taken over by the fire and police departments as suggested by Councilman Leonard Kopeikin.

Fire and police department personnel are better trained and in a better position to use communication equipment and coordinate activities than are retired military men.

Care for the victims of disaster has traditionally been the job of the Red Cross. Funds for such facilities as a civil defense portable hospital could better be spent on improving the facilities of the professionals.

THE STRONGEST argument advanced for the existence of the civil defense department involves the economics of purchasing federal government surplus equipment.

This argument has two flaws.

First of all, equipment of questionable value to the city has been purchased simply because it was cheap. No purchase, no matter how low the price, is economically sound if the equipment is not needed or if it is in such condition that repair and maintenance become a high cost factor.

The second flaw in the economics argument involves an ethical question.

Even if all the purchases made by civil defense were economically sound, can a city government maintain the respect of its citizens by using a farce such as the fallout program to qualify for federal surplus purchases? We feel that it cannot.

If the City of Santa Barbara needs equipment, it should buy it through its purchasing department in a normal manner rather than using a sham for questionable savings.

—J.W.H.—